

REMARKS

Further and favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks.

Initially, Applicants wish to express their appreciation to the Examiner for his courtesy and cooperation provided to the Applicants' representative during the personal interview held on September 21, 2006.

The claims have been amended as discussed with the Examiner.

Specifically, claim 1 has been amended to indicate that the liquid medium may optionally contain an oxidizing material wherein the liquid medium includes no hydrogen atom, except the hydrogen may be present in the oxidizing material. Claim 11 has been similarly amended. Support for these amendments are found in claims 6 and 7.

In view of the foregoing, the rejection of claims 7 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, is deemed to be overcome.

Claims 1 and 11 have further been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 2, which has been cancelled. During the interview, the Examiner indicated that incorporating the limitations of claim 2 into claims 1 and 11 would likely overcome the rejection of claims 1-13, 15 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. § 103. Specifically, the Li reference, which was relied upon as teaching liquid mediums containing no hydrogen atom, does not teach a liquid medium including no hydrogen atom which is a saturated or unsaturated hydrocarbon in a molecule of which a hydrogen atom or hydrogen atoms are all substituted with a fluorine atom or fluorine atoms.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this ground of rejection has been overcome.

Lastly, claims 12 and 15 have been amended to replace the phrase "obtained by means of" with "produced by" as to suggest during the interview. The Applicant would prefer not to rewrite the claims in independent form as suggested by the Examiner because such amendment would result in an additional claims fee.

In view of the foregoing, the rejection of claims 15 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph is deemed to be overcome.

In view of the foregoing, it is believed that each ground of rejection set forth in the official action has been overcome, and that the application is now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, such allowance is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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